

GOOCHLAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
JULY 13, 2010
GOOCHLAND HIGH SCHOOL
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Maxwell G. Cisne, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present were:

Maxwell G. Cisne, Chairman
Ivan O. Mattox, Sr., Vice Chairman
Mr. Andrew A. Meng, III
Mr. James L. Haskell
Mr. Raymond A. Miller
Dr. Linda A. Underwood, Superintendent

Also attending were:

Peter M. Gretz, Assistant Superintendent
Lynne Venter, Director of Finance and Operations
Tom DeWeerd, Director of Secondary Education
Debra Beasley, Director of Special Education and Student Services
Dianna Gordon, Principal, Randolph Elementary School
James Hopkins, Principal, Byrd Elementary School
Stacey Austin, Principal, Goochland Elementary School
Francie Ball, Principal, Goochland High School
Connie Foreman, Enrichment and Interim Elementary Instructional Specialist
John Hendron, Supervisor of Instructional Technology
Tina McCay, Interim Specialist-Elementary Education and Title I
Andrea Erard, Legal Counsel

The Media was represented by:

Ken Odor, *The Goochland Gazette*

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Dr. Underwood presented additions/changes to the agenda.

FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- Sekou Shabaka wondered about the gifted program and whether or not that had been finalized. He feels rules are best done when there is solicitation of the public or people impacted. He feels that many schools should have Title I coordinator. He stated the NAACP will speak at every meeting until their grievances are addressed. One thing they want to bring to attention were other places around country and in Virginia that are dealing with disproportionality. He stated that Annapolis, Maryland set aside \$3,000,000 to deal with issues and asked all teachers to resign and reapply. In 3 years the graduation rate among poor students increased. He

suggested that someone in the school system could take a look at this program. Mr. Shabaka encouraged the School Board to be able to publicly talk about things that are not comfortable and that the NAACP is willing to help and be cooperative in any manner.

- Michael McDermott said he is not happy about the basic things he sees, stating that although in a meeting space more suited to needs he wondered why it took an act of congress. He said that in looking at public copy of agenda, 90% is single sided, saying it may not be much but it's his tax dollars. He said it's visible and arrogant. He said he doesn't like what was pulled from the podium at the last workshop meeting. He said he heard the Chair ask if there were any additions deletions or changes to agenda, but didn't hear that at last meeting. He said the School Board is supposed to be setting example and with kind of portrait that these brush strokes paint, he wonders the lessons being learned. He said he will be back.
- Connie McRoberts thanked the School Board for allowing her to speak and stated she and her family were very happy with schools until about 2 years ago. She believes the publicity the schools were getting was uplifting to whole schools system, people were taking notice and were impressed, but she doesn't feel that way currently. She mentioned the principal switch stating that she knows both principals are fabulous and will do a great job, but she feels this decision should not have been made when it was made. She said she could imagine Stacey Austin explaining to the children that Dianna Gordon would be new principal and they would have "bought it." She said that right now this school system has gone through budget cuts, and the elementary schools don't need a change right now. Parents are not happy. Mrs. McRoberts asked that the School Board reconsider and think about what they're doing – parents do not feel it and perception is reality.
- Charles Costello said he was there to express sorrow and discontent with the job the School Board has been doing. He said that unfortunately he had not been following it all along. He moved here 6 years ago and has always believed in public schools. He didn't understand why people went to private schools. He looked for schools and compared them to St. Mary's and when they went to Randolph Elementary School they felt they had found their school. The gifted center also weighed into their decision. He said it seems like what School Board wants to do is to treat everyone as if they are on equal footing and feels they will leave students behind, students will become disruptive, and SOL scores will go down. He heard about change in principals and finds it shocking that the School Board would do that stating students need consistency. He said he can't understand why the School Board would pull such a power play. He faults School Board for rubber stamping these things. He thinks there will be a decrease in the education level in the schools. He said Goochland was a shining star and we are going to the backwoods again.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

- Regular Monthly Workshop-Tuesday, July 27, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at Goochland High School.

CONSENT ITEMS
PERSONNEL ACTIONS
MINUTES
BILLS/PAYROLL

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval:
June 8, 2010 regular meeting minutes, and June 22, 2010 workshop minutes, Bills and Payroll for June, and Personnel Actions.

Appointments:

Connie Foreman, Enrichment and Interim Elementary Instructional Specialist
Demetra Harris, Secretary-Human Resources and Federal Programs
Laura Kassner, Teacher Induction and Professional Development Specialist
Tina McCay, Interim Specialist-Elementary Education and Title I
Laurie Tilman, Secretary-Leave and Employment Processing
Jennifer Waggener, School Psychologist/Special Education Supervisor

Reassignments:

Dianna Gordon, Principal, Randolph Elementary School
Stacey Austin, Principal, Goochland Elementary School

Approval for Probationary Contract:

Japeira Keys, BES, Special Education
Crystal Neilson-Hall, GHS, Art

Approval for Continuing Contract:

Bonnie Spencer, GES, 4th Grade
Shannon Tual, GMS, Business

Resignations:

Vernon Ball, Driver
Mary Beth Browning, BES, Kindergarten
Jesse Hernandez, GHS, Internship and Independent Study Coordinator
Takara Higgs, GMS, Special Education

Mr. Mattox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Haskell, to approve the Consent Items as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

TITLE II, PART A, TEACHER QUALITY, APPLICATION APPROVAL

Dr. Underwood presented the Title II, Part A, Teacher Quality Application and recommended approval.

Mr. Meng made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Haskell, to approve the Resolution as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

TECHNOLOGY RESOLUTION

Dr. Underwood presented a Technology Funding Resolution enabling the school division to access \$180,000 in state technology funds. These funds will be primarily used for hardware and infrastructure costs. These funds are included in the current budget.

Mr. Haskell made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng, to approve the Technology Resolution as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (AUP) APPROVAL

Dr. Underwood presented the revised Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for approval. Tom DeWeerd was present to answer questions.

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng, to approve the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL (CTE) ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Underwood presented Career and Technical (CTE) Advisory Committee list. The schools are required to have a CTE Advisory Committee. Tom DeWeerd compiled the list.

Mr. Haskell made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Mattox, to approve the Career and Technical (CTE) Advisory Committee list as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

TECHNOLOGY PLAN

Tom Deweerd and John Hendron presented the 6-Year Technology Plan. Dr. Underwood recommended approval of the Plan.

Mr. Haskell made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng, to approve the 6-Year Technology Plan as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

GIFTED 5-YEAR PLAN

Deferred to the July 27, 2010 workshop.

GIFTED ANNUAL REPORT

Connie Foreman presented the Gifted Annual Report. Liz Alford presented on behalf of the Gifted Advisory Committee (GAC). The report was presented to the GAC. The GAC met five times and all meetings were well attended.

Mr. Haskell made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the Gifted Annual Report as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY REGULATIONS UPDATE

Dr. Underwood presented the revisions to the Title I Parent Involvement Policy Regulations and recommended approval. Tina McCay was present to answer questions.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Miller said he attended the strategic planning committee meeting for the county. He was disappointed in that there was no mention of the schools. He would like this put on the agenda for a workshop session wherein the School Board can discuss a strategic plan and how that can be incorporated into the county's plan.

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT

- Charles Costello said this was the first school board meeting he had witnessed and he was amazed how fast the School Board got through it without discussion. He was amazed there was no comment in between. He feels that what they say doesn't really matter and said that all that he has heard is true.
- Beth Hardy asked School Board to communicate more openly and proactively; case in point, the principal reassignment. She said the rumors both wild and not-so-wild take on lives of their own. She has received over 60 emails and phone calls from upset parents about Mr. Austin's leaving Randolph. The main discord was with the manner in which it was handled. She said that to execute a decision of this magnitude in this manner is poor planning and disrespectful to others. The lack of communication continues to undermine the public and this administration. There is a petition to validate the public's frustration in this regard. Ms. Hardy said personally she believes that even in this time the schools are doing great things that the public never hears about. She feels the good things are being overshadowed. She mentioned the meeting for transition of children back to home schools from the gifted center as a stellar example of good communication. She again urged the School Board to focus on information and transparency to public.
- Michael McDermott stated that the Technology Plan was 40+ pages long and he wants to know where the money will come from for this Plan. He feels that at a certain point technology is enough. Mr. McDermott stated that at the last meeting there was no request for additions, deletions, changes to agenda, but at the beginning of this meeting it was asked.

CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Miller made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng, to go into closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the discussion or consideration of the assignment and performance of two specific administrators.

END CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Mattox made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Meng for the Board to come out of Closed Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Meng made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Mattox to certify that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Board. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED:

APPROVED:



Signature

DiAnne Bennett

Signature

8-10-2010

Date

8/10/10

Date